**United States Constitution**

  [Articles of the Constitution](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Constitution#Articles_of_the_Constitution)

* [2.1 Preamble: Statement of purpose](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Constitution#Preamble:_Statement_of_purpose)
* [2.2 Article One: Legislative power](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Constitution#Article_One:_Legislative_power)
* [2.3 Article Two: Executive power](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Constitution#Article_Two:_Executive_power)
* [2.4 Article Three: Judicial power](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Constitution#Article_Three:_Judicial_power)
* [2.5 Article Four: States' powers and limits](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Constitution#Article_Four:_States.27_powers_and_limits)
* [2.6 Article Five: Amendments](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Constitution#Article_Five:_Amendments)
* [2.7 Article Six: Federal power](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Constitution#Article_Six:_Federal_power)
* [2.8 Article Seven: Ratification](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Constitution#Article_Seven:_Ratification)
* [First Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution): addresses the rights of [freedom of religion](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freedom_of_religion_in_the_United_States) (prohibiting Congress from [establishing a religion](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Establishment_Clause_of_the_First_Amendment) and protecting the right to [free exercise of religion](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Free_Exercise_Clause_of_the_First_Amendment)), [freedom of speech](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freedom_of_speech), [freedom of the press](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freedom_of_the_press), [freedom of assembly](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freedom_of_assembly), and [freedom of petition](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freedom_of_petition).
* [Second Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution): guarantees the right of individuals to possess firearms. The most recent Supreme Court decision interpreting the Second Amendment is [District of Columbia v. Heller](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/District_of_Columbia_v._Heller).
* [Third Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Third_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution): prohibits the government from using private homes as quarters for soldiers during peacetime without the consent of the owners. The only existing case law regarding this amendment is a lower court decision in the case of [*Engblom v. Carey*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Engblom_v._Carey).[[18]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Constitution#cite_note-17)
* [Fourth Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fourth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution): guards against [searches, arrests, and seizures](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Search_and_seizure) of [property](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Property) without a specific warrant or a "[probable cause](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Probable_cause)" to believe a crime has been committed. Some rights to privacy have been inferred from this amendment and others by the Supreme Court.
* [Fifth Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fifth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution): forbids [trial](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trial_%28law%29) for a major [crime](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crime) except after [indictment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indictment) by a [grand jury](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grand_jury); prohibits [double jeopardy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Double_jeopardy) (repeated trials), except in certain very limited circumstances; forbids punishment without [due process](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Due_process) of law; and provides that an accused person may not be compelled to [testify against himself](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Self-incrimination) (this is also known as "[Taking the Fifth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taking_the_Fifth)" or "Pleading the Fifth"). This is regarded as the "rights of the accused" amendment, otherwise known as the [Miranda rights](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Miranda_rights) after the Supreme Court case. It also prohibits government from taking private property for public use without "[just compensation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Just_compensation)," the basis of [eminent domain](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eminent_domain) in the United States.
* [Sixth Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sixth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution): guarantees a speedy public trial for criminal offenses. It requires trial by a [jury](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jury), guarantees the right to [legal counsel](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legal_counsel) for the accused, and guarantees that the accused may require [witnesses](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Witness) to attend the trial and testify in the presence of the accused. It also guarantees the accused a right to know the charges against him. The Sixth Amendment has several court cases associated with it, including [*Powell v. Alabama*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Powell_v._Alabama), [*United States v. Wong Kim Ark*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_v._Wong_Kim_Ark), [*Gideon v. Wainwright*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gideon_v._Wainwright), and [*Crawford v. Washington*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crawford_v._Washington). In 1966, the Supreme Court ruled that the fifth amendment prohibition on forced self-incrimination and the sixth amendment clause on right to counsel were to be made known to all persons placed under arrest, and these clauses have become known as the [Miranda rights](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Miranda_warning).
* [Seventh Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seventh_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution): assures trial by jury in [civil cases](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civil_law_%28common_law%29).
* [Eighth Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eighth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution): forbids excessive [bail](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bail) or [fines](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fine_%28penalty%29), and [cruel and unusual punishment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cruel_and_unusual_punishment).
* [Ninth Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ninth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution): declares that the listing of individual rights in the Constitution and Bill of Rights is not meant to be comprehensive; and that the other rights not specifically mentioned are retained by the people.
* [Tenth Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tenth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution): reserves to the states respectively, or to the people, any powers the Constitution did not delegate to the United States, nor prohibit the states from exercising.
* [Eleventh Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eleventh_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) (1795): Clarifies judicial power over foreign nationals, and limits ability of citizens to [sue](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lawsuit) states in federal courts and under federal law. ([Full text](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Additional_amendments_to_the_United_States_Constitution#Amendment_XI))
* [Twelfth Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twelfth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) (1804): Changes the method of [presidential elections](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_presidential_election) so that members of the [Electoral College](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electoral_College_%28United_States%29) cast separate ballots for president and vice president. ([Full text](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Additional_amendments_to_the_United_States_Constitution#Amendment_XII))
* [Thirteenth Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thirteenth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) (1865): Abolishes slavery and authorizes Congress to enforce [abolition](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abolitionism). ([Full text](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Additional_amendments_to_the_United_States_Constitution#Amendment_XIII))
* [Fourteenth Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fourteenth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) (1868): Defines a set of guarantees for [United States citizenship](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_nationality_law); prohibits *states* from abridging citizens' [privileges or immunities](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Privileges_or_Immunities_Clause) and rights to [due process](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Due_process) and the [equal protection of the law](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equal_Protection_Clause); repeals the [Three-fifths compromise](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Three-fifths_compromise); prohibits repudiation of the federal debt caused by the Civil War. ([Full text](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Additional_amendments_to_the_United_States_Constitution#Amendment_XIV))
* [Fifteenth Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fifteenth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) (1870): Prohibits the federal government and the states from using a citizen's race, color, or previous status as a slave as a qualification for voting. ([Full text](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Additional_amendments_to_the_United_States_Constitution#Amendment_XV))
* [Sixteenth Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sixteenth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) (1913): Authorizes unapportioned federal [taxes on income](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Income_tax). ([Full text](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Additional_amendments_to_the_United_States_Constitution#Amendment_XVI))
* [Seventeenth Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seventeenth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) (1913): Converts state election of senators to popular election. ([Full text](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Additional_amendments_to_the_United_States_Constitution#Amendment_XVII))
* [Eighteenth Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eighteenth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) (1919): Prohibited the manufacturing, importing, and exporting of alcoholic beverages (see [Prohibition in the United States](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prohibition_in_the_United_States)). *Repealed by the Twenty-First Amendment*. ([Full text](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Additional_amendments_to_the_United_States_Constitution#Amendment_XVIII))
* [Nineteenth Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nineteenth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) (1920): Prohibits the federal government and the states from forbidding any citizen to vote [due to their sex](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women%27s_suffrage). ([Full text](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Additional_amendments_to_the_United_States_Constitution#Amendment_XIX))
* [Twentieth Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twentieth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) (1933): Changes details of congressional and presidential terms and of [presidential succession](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_presidential_line_of_succession). ([Full text](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Additional_amendments_to_the_United_States_Constitution#Amendment_XX))
* [Twenty-first Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twenty-first_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) (1933): Repeals Eighteenth Amendment. Permits states to prohibit the importation of alcoholic beverages. ([Full text](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Additional_amendments_to_the_United_States_Constitution#Amendment_XXI))
* [Twenty-second Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twenty-second_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) (1951): [Limits](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Term_limit) president to two terms. ([Full text](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Additional_amendments_to_the_United_States_Constitution#Amendment_XXII))
* [Twenty-third Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twenty-third_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) (1961): Grants presidential electors to the [District of Columbia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Washington,_D.C.). ([Full text](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Additional_amendments_to_the_United_States_Constitution#Amendment_XXIII))
* [Twenty-fourth Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twenty-fourth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) (1964): Prohibits the federal government and the states from requiring the [payment of a tax](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poll_tax) as a qualification for voting for federal officials. ([Full text](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Additional_amendments_to_the_United_States_Constitution#Amendment_XXIV))
* [Twenty-fifth Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twenty-fifth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) (1967): Changes details of presidential succession, provides for temporary removal of president, and provides for replacement of the vice president. ([Full text](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Additional_amendments_to_the_United_States_Constitution#Amendment_XXV))
* [Twenty-sixth Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twenty-sixth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) (1971): Prohibits the federal government and the states from forbidding any citizen of age [18 or greater](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Voting_age) to vote on account of their age. ([Full text](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Additional_amendments_to_the_United_States_Constitution#Amendment_XXVI))
* [Twenty-seventh Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twenty-seventh_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) (1992): Limits congressional pay raises. ([Full text](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Additional_amendments_to_the_United_States_Constitution#Amendment_XXVII))